

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Garden City, New York

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MINUTES

Meeting of April 14, 2020

The six hundred thirty-fifth meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Chair Gardyn at 6:39 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair
Kathy Weiss, Vice Chair
John R. Durso, Secretary Pro Tem
Wanda H. Jackson, George Siberón,
Donna M. Tuman, Bridget Russell, Student Trustee.

Absent: John A. DeGrace, Linda H. Green, Edward Powers

Also in attendance: President Williams

Chair Gardyn requested a motion that pursuant to Section 105 of the Open Meetings Law of the State of New York, the Board of Trustees shall enter Executive Session for the following purposes: 1) to discuss matters relating to negotiations involving the Nassau Community College Administrators Association; 2) to discuss matters relating to negotiations involving the NCCFT; and 3) of reviewing the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Tuman. Motion carried 7-0.

Chair Gardyn resumed the open meeting via Zoom at 8:11p.m.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair
Kathy Weiss, Vice Chair
John R. Durso, Secretary Pro Tem
Wanda H. Jackson, George Siberón (joined late),
Donna M. Tuman, Bridget Russell, Student Trustee.

Absent: John A. DeGrace, Linda H. Green, Edward Powers

Also in attendance: President Williams

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of February 11, 2020 were not approved, as there were not enough Board members present who attended the meeting.

2. Trustee Weiss introduced the following resolution:

WHEREAS, as a result of the COVID19 pandemic response, several institutions, including local hospitals and other SUNY campuses have approached the College to request donations of equipment and supplies;

WHEREAS, the College currently has supplies which may be useful in responding to the COVID19 pandemic, including, but not limited to Personal Protective Equipment ("PPE"), ventilators, 3-D Printers, etc.

WHEREAS, Community College regulations, 8 NYCRR Section 604.2, provide that community college Trustees shall delegate to the president responsibility for implementation of, among other matters, "care, custody, control and management of land, grounds, buildings, equipment and supplies used for the purposes of the college for carrying out its objectives";

WHEREAS, the Regulations do not address the community college President's authority to make a donation or loan of supplies to enable local or State organizations to respond adequately to a public health emergency, nor is such authority provided for in any other College policy.

NOW, HERETOFORE, the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College hereby resolves as follows:

1. The Board hereby authorizes the Nassau Community College President, as of April 4, 2020, to make a loan of or donation of equipment and supplies which are not currently utilized by the College to local or State organizations, in order to enable such organizations to properly respond to the COVID19 pandemic or any future public health emergency or crisis.
2. The President shall work with relevant College constituencies to ensure that the equipment and/or supplies are available for donation or a loan, and are not currently utilized for community college purposes, or, alternatively, that relevant College departments are able to spare the equipment or supplies in order to assist with the pandemic response by local or State entities.
3. The President shall have the authority to enter into loan or donation agreements on behalf of the College, as such agreements may be required to effectuate this Resolution.
4. The President shall work with relevant College constituencies to ensure that proper tracking of the donated or loaned assets is maintained and will pursue any available mechanisms for reimbursements that may be available in order to replace the donated equipment, or unreturned loaned equipment, as expeditiously as possible.

On behalf of the medical community, Dr. Gardyn thanks and greatly appreciates the Colleges' donation of extra medical equipment.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider resolution as amended. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Jackson. Motion carried 6-0.

3. Trustee Jackson introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees Personnel, Affirmative Action & Labor Committee, the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees, hereby approves that pursuant to the terms of the collective bargaining agreement with the Nassau Community College Federation Of Teachers, and upon the recommendation of the college-wide promotion and tenure committee and the college administration, the faculty members named herein are hereby granted promotion and/or tenure at Nassau Community College effective September 1, 2020.

Tenure & Promotion to Assistant Professor

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Gina Esposito Sales	Student Personnel Services
Staci Ganson	Critical Reading & Academic Advancement
Ann Harrison	Legal Studies
Slavka Kleger	Allied Health Sciences
Jennifer Kohut	MAT/CSC/ITE
Dina Ledwith	Critical Reading & Academic Advancement
Uzo Osuno	MAT/CSC/ITE
Matthew Posillico	English
Kathleen Thelian	Nursing
Demetrius Watkins	Student Personnel Services
Leslie Wong Look	Library

Tenure and Promotion to Technical Assistant II

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Richard Cappiello	Physical Science
Rachael Dioguardi	Legal Studies
Christopher Frederick	Communications
Salvatore Locascio	Music

Tenure

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Renee Chin	Allied Health Sciences
Judith Martin	Allied Health Sciences

Promotion to Technical Assistant III

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Robert Madura	Hospitality Business

Promotion to Administrative Assistant IV

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Curtis Guillian	Athletics

Tenure and Promotion to Technologist II

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Xiaomeng Kong	MAT/CSC/ITE

Promotion to Technologist III

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Adam Pilipshen	Distance Education

Tenure and Promotion to LINCC Lecturer II

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Frances Calleo	LINCC

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Tuman. Motion carried 7-0.

4. Second Reading & Discussion: Amendment Policy 1200: Board of Trustees Rules of Procedure

Trustee Weiss summarized that Policy 1200 sets out the rules and procedure of the Board as it is the policy-making body and has the responsibility to establish, review periodically and evaluate the policies and procedures and amend them. The changes were discussed at the committee meeting. Dr. Williams acknowledged that the Board went through the proper process of review and interpretation and the adjustments are appropriate.

5. Second Reading & Discussion: Amendment Policy 7500: Building and Program Naming

Trustee Weiss summarized that the purpose of Policy 7500 Building and Program Naming has to do with the permanent naming of physical and non-physical assets of the College and the committee reviewed and updated the policy to meet current needs. Dr. Williams stated the changes were in response from comments from the Board to ensure that those who we recognize are continuously living up to the mission of the College.

6. Second Reading & Discussion: Amendment Policy 7510: Plaque Recognition

Trustee Weiss summarized that Policy 7510 Plaque Recognition is in relation to a plaque that is appropriate to honor an individual and when the honor may or may not be accompanied by a financial bequest. Dr. Williams stated the changes were in response from comments from the Board to ensure that those who we recognize are continuously living up to the mission of the College.

Trustees Weiss asked if there were any questions on the policies, being none, the Board agreed to vote.

Chair Gardyn made a motion under Article VIII section C(6) of the Rules of Procedure to allow for the consideration of three items that did not appear on the Calendar. Trustee Weiss seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Trustee Gardyn introduced the following (3) three resolutions: Policy 1200, Policy 7500 and Policy 7510

4. Policy 1200 Board of Trustees Rules of Procedure:

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Policy & Planning Committee at its meeting February 11, 2020, followed by two readings of the policy by the Board of Trustees and public discussion, the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College adopts Policy 1200: Board of Trustees Rules of Procedure as amended and that the same be subsequently incorporated into the policy manual of the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College.

5. Policy 7500: Building and Program Naming:

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Policy & Planning Committee at its meeting

February 11, 2020, followed by two readings of the policy by the Board of Trustees and public discussion, the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College adopts Policy 7500: Building and Program Naming as amended and that the same be subsequently incorporated into the policy manual of the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College.

6. Policy 7510: Plaque Recognition:

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Policy & Planning Committee at its meeting February 11, 2020, followed by two readings of the policy by the Board of Trustees and public discussion, the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College adopts Policy 7510: Plaque Recognition as amended and that the same be subsequently incorporated into the policy manual of the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider Policy 1200, Policy 7500 and Policy 7510. Trustee Russell moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Tuman. Chair Gardyn asked the Board if there were any further discussion on Policy 1200, Policy 7500 and Policy 7510, being none. Motion carried 7-0.

President's Report:

Acknowledgments

He wished everyone safety and health safe amidst the ongoing pandemic, expressing sympathy to those who are currently ill and especially to those who have experienced the loss of life of a loved one to the unforgiving coronavirus. He acknowledged how so much has changed in a short period of time. The effects of COVID-19 have upended our way of life at NCC and beyond. Since Tuesday, March 10, 2020, the last day we held classes in person and most of us interacted on campus, almost 99% of our Spring face-to-face course offerings have converted to remote instruction. Support services and our business operations are also taking place from a distance. He conveyed admiration for the strength, perseverance, and inspiration of our students in forging ahead with us. Their spirit and tenacity bring him joy as he reflects on how they will make a positive impact on our world. He thanked the hundreds of faculty and staff and our union and Academic Senate leaders whose passion, partnership, flexibility, and trust have helped the College advance during this unprecedented transition; members of his Cabinet for all their positive contributions and leadership; and the Board Trustees for their concern, support, and dedication in ensuring that the mission of the College will be fulfilled.

Student Highlights

On the previous day, he had a Zoom videoconference with about 20 members of our Student Senate, including our Student Trustee, all of whom shared the highs and lows of the recent changes. He appreciates their transparency in communicating their concerns:

- Commencement – virtually recognizing achievements.
- Receiving regalia.
- Grading policy for Spring 2020.
- Summer and Fall teaching and learning remotely.

Enrollment

- Summer 2020
 - Due to the health crisis, Summer enrollment is off to a slower start than expected.
 - We are enhancing our marketing.

- Summer courses previously listed as meeting on campus have been transitioned to remote delivery, conducted on the days and times listed through the use of email and videoconferencing.
- Fall 2020
 - We are in the process of developing contingency plans.
 - Registration for Fall 2020 will begin in April.

Budget.

The State budget was passed and we did not receive a 100% or even 98% floor for which we had hoped. All community colleges face a dire fiscal reality, needing to:

- continue to provide equitable opportunities to support access, completion, and post-completion success in the midst of diminished funding support;
- reduce redundancies and enhance efficiencies; and
- take a hard look at the budget to make tough choices, working diligently to address how we will rebound.

Rebounding:

We have been engaging several internal and external constituents. A few examples of how NCC is meeting the challenge head-on, looking towards the future to mitigate the enrollment decrease:

- We are in frequent communication with SUNY for guidance and insight.
- We are engaging the County and State.
- He has recently started attending the regional Long Island Workforce and Education Work Group.
- We are connected with the Nassau County Coronavirus Economic Advisory Council.

Nassau Strength:

He takes pride that the College has been addressing the COVID-19 issues in the community, as well, even with our limited resources.

- We have committed to:
 - loaning three ventilators;
 - sharing six 3-D printers with Stony Brook to help make face masks; and
 - distributing gloves and gowns.

Closing

We are being stretched and strained, and strengthened in unthinkable ways, and yet he remains confident that we have the resolve to emerge fortified and thriving. He again thanked everyone for all the good work we do to help students. He remains extremely happy and humbled to serve as President of Nassau Community College.

Vice Chair Weiss expressed her appreciation to Dr. Williams for maintaining steady communication, whether to the campus or directly to Board members, to keep everyone informed on what is happening on campus.

Speaker

Frank Frisenda, NCCFT President, remarked that unknown external forces are dictating how the College will respond internally to this pandemic: as we discuss the uncertainty of student enrollment, we are bombarded by stories of death, frontline worker despair, unemployment, racial inequities, and food supply disruptions. The daily news is confusing and depressing, causing untold anxiety and grief. He no less is proud to be working with faculty, staff and administration who are moving forward in developing plans for the College's operation once

we have transcended this crisis. The administration has maintained transparency with the community as we confront this ever-changing environment, and has continued to meet regularly with various groups through Zoom videoconference to share updates and strategies. He lamented that earlier during the President's "ominous" review of the budget report, however, referenced documents and charts were frustratingly not projected for sharing with viewers. In order to successfully transition to our new reality, we need to encourage active, knowledgeable partnership with more focused discussion to work together to achieve resolution. He expressed his deep sadness for the (non-COVID-19-related) death of former Trustee Anthony Cornachio, noting affectionately that Tony could be a stubborn rebel, but he was "our" headstrong maverick. He wished all continued safety and health.


Chair Gardyn likewise offered his blessings for Anthony Cornachio, reiterating that Tony was a "larger than life character". We face many new challenges, including our first live-streamed NCC Board meeting, but must be reminded that we are still connected as a community, whether electronically or digitally. He conveyed admiration for the strength displayed by faculty, administration and students in accommodating and improvising new forms of learning and communication in order to accomplish our educational mission. Through herculean effort, working together, we will overcome this crisis to keep NCC moving forward. As a physician, he encourages everyone to stay home, wash their hands frequently, wear a mask and gloves, and maintain social distancing. These practices are working, as we witness our first decrease in cases, even as the crisis is not over. Hospitals are still overwhelmed. We cannot afford complacency. He wished all health and peace.

Chair Gardyn announced the next Capital and Finance BOT Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. followed by the Full Board meeting. The Board will open the public session between 6:15 and 6:30 p.m. and resume the public session approximately 7:30 p.m.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Motion carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:41p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


John R. Durso
Secretary Pro Tem